helps to set a solid base on which to interpret more complicated presentations.

The editors have done an admirable job in keeping the text readable. The tables are remarkably uniform with frequent subtitles and good indexing. There are relatively up-to-date bibliographies. Especially interesting are unique chapters such as "Management of Chemical and Drug Injury to the Eye," "Environmental Toxins," "Marine Toxicology," "Nonsteroidal Antiinflammatory Agents and Colchicine Overdose," "Complications of Cytotoxic and Immunosuppressive Chemotherapy," "Effects of Toxins on Gastrointestinal Tract," "Methyl Bromide and Related Compounds" and even "Tear Gas and Other Riot Control Agents."

As with any text with such a broad scope, there is some unevenness. The early chapters may be too elementary. The pictures of snakes, mushrooms, fish and plants are generally too small to be of clinical use. The major concern is that this up-to-date text will require frequent updating as new information becomes available. Nonetheless this easy-to-read text is a must for emergency physicians. It will be especially useful as an adjunct to poison control centers and fills the need for a solid textbook in a rapidly evolving area. There is something for everyone in this text.

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ANNUAL REVIEW OF IMMUNOLOGY—VOLUME I—Edited by William E. Paul, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. Annual Reviews, Inc., 4139 El Camino Way, Palo Alto, CA 94306, 1983. 655 pages, $27.00 (USA), $30.00 (elsewhere).

This book is the first volume in a new series—*The Annual Review of Immunology*—and is the 25th in the series of annual review volumes. This volume, as the other annual reviews, is not for the "faint of heart." There are 22 chapters, each by separate authors and each an in-depth review and critique of a major area in the rapidly expanding field of basic immunology. For the most part each chapter is an intense detailed evaluation of a major immunologic area of contribution. Furthermore, there are extensive references at the end of each chapter which will serve the most interested scientist as a good bibliography. These chapter-reviews will primarily be of interest to serious scientists, researchers or students and certainly will be beyond the level for most persons not working directly in the field or with particular expertise and interest in a particular area. The topics chosen for review seem a bit eclectic as they range across cellular interactions, complement receptors, structure and regulation of immunoglobulin genes, idiotypes, cell-mediated immunity to malaria and on and on. However, realizing the book is the first volume of the *Annual Review of Immunology* makes this quite understandable. There is such a wealth of material it is hard to know where to begin. Thus the *Annual Review of Immunology* certainly is an idea whose time has come and the editors should be complimented on getting out such an in-depth and up-to-date volume. Scientists and students of immunology now will be able to look forward to succinct critical reviews of important issues annually.

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GENERAL OPHTHALMOLOGY—10th Edition—Daniel Vaughan, MD, Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology, University of California, San Francisco, and Taylor Asbury, MD, Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology, College of Medicine, University of Cincinnati. Lange Medical Publications, Drawer L, Los Altos, CA 94022, 1983. 389 pages, $17.00 (softbound).

This profusely and helpfully illustrated volume is a mainstay of medical student education. In this, the latest in a series of editions beginning in 1958, the book has grown to 407 pages. As such, it borders on being too extensive for medical student consumption, yet such is the progress of medicine in all of its specialties.

General Ophthalmology is factual and concise. It places emphasis in the appropriate areas for the medical student or general physician. The division into logical chapters, and the excellent index add to its usefulness, particularly in view of the fact that it is now a substantial book.

The book is easy to read. It has extensive, up-to-date references at the conclusion of each chapter. Relatively newer areas of ophthalmology, such as immunology and genetic disorders, are appropriately represented by their own chapters.

There is no better current reference in ophthalmology for the medical student and general physician.

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VASCULAR GRAFTING—CLINICAL APPLICATIONS AND TECHNIQUES—Edited by Creighton B. Wright, MD, Clinical Professor of Surgery, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and Professor of Clinical Surgery, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati. John Wright/PSG Inc, 545 Great Road, Littleton, MA 01460, 1983. 386 pages, $54.00.

This excellent volume contains probably the most complete discussion of vascular grafts in one place that has been published to date. Although for the average surgeon it may be "more than I wanted to know about penguins," for the vascular surgeon it is most certainly a basic text that contains encyclopedic information and references on what are in reality the basic tools of the profession.

The history of vascular grafting is traced, with significant developments annotated along the way. The development, fabrication and characteristics of different graft materials are adequately reviewed in the separate chapters and the applicability, patency rates and biological characteristics of all current graft materials are extensively analyzed.

Of particular note is the discussion of PTFE grafts by Jack Cannon, an excellent review of femoropopliteal grafting by Thomas Lynch and Robert Hobson and a very comprehensive discussion of the autogenous saphenous vein graft by L. Paul Bosher. An excellent chapter on thrombosis by George J. Collins, Jr, reviews some basic hemotologic and coagulation concepts and places them in the perspective of host-graft interaction.

The book is well organized and with few exceptions reads very easily with good literary style, excellent editing and adequate references. Illustrations are sparse but, nevertheless, where found they are of good quality and helpful. With the notable exception of chapters by Lester Sauvage and Herbert Dardik, there is perhaps too little material on the actual technical facets of graft implantation. A more detailed discussion of graft implantation techniques, particularly indicating the specific technical differences between different graft materials, would be useful.

Another area not extensively covered in the text is management of specific graft complications such as sepsis, false aneurysm, graft disruption and seroma. It probably would be useful in a comprehensive discussion of vascular grafts to include a section on types and materials of sutures to be used in graft implantation.

On balance, however, this is an excellent basic reference text on vascular grafts with chapters written by clinicians and investigators at the forefront of graft development having wide experience in graft implantation.

This certainly would be a valuable addition to the library of any surgeon specializing in the practice of vascular surgery.

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